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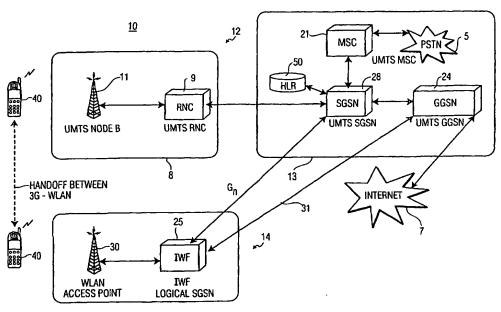
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(54) Title: WLAN AS A LOGICAL SUPPORT NODE (SGSN) FOR INTERWORKING BETWEEN THE WLAN AND A MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: An interface (28) for connecting networks includes an interworking function provided between a wireless local area network (WLAN) (8, 14) and a Public Mobile Land Network (PLMN) (13) to provide communication interactions between the PLMN (13) and the WLAN (8, 14). The interworking function includes a dual-protocol stack, which interfaces the WLAN protocols and PLMN protocols to provide seamless communications between the WLAN (8, 14) and the PLMN (13) such that an increase in available service bandwidth provided for users of the PLMN is maintained.



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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)			
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages		Relevant to claim No.
X, E	US 2003/0139180 A1 (MCINTOSH et al) 24 July 2	003, page 4, paragraphs 50-52.	1-18
X, P	US 6,542,516 B1 (VIALEN et al) 01 April 2003, column 4, lines 20-49.		1-6, 10, and 13-17
Y, P			1 and 2
Y	EP 1 146 691 A1 (MORGANTI et al) 17 October 2001, page 6, lines 31-40.		1 and 2
A, P US 2002/0110104 A1 (SURDILA et al) 15 August 2002, s		2002, see entire document.	1-18
A, E	US 2003/0119481 A1 (HAVERINEN et al) 26 June	2003, see entire document.	1-18
Α	WO 98/53576 A2 (MONRAD) 26 November 1998, see entire document.		1-18
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